

PORTSMOUTH INQUIRER.

FRANCIS CLEVELAND, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
ALEX. PEARCE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Portsmouth, December 16, 1850.

U. V. B. PALMER, the American Newspaper Agent, is the only authorized agent for this paper in the cities of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, and is only empowered to take advertisements and subscriptions at the same rates as required by us. His receipts will be regarded as payments.

Our publication day being on Monday, all advertisements and notices for publication, must be handed in on Saturday.

The Cotton Trade.

From an article in Hunt's Magazine, for December we gather the following facts: "The United States is now not only the largest producer, but the largest consumer of cotton; our production has advanced with such rapid strides that we have distanced all competitors; the cotton goods worn by our people exceed now the amount used by Great Britain and all her dependencies in the four quarters of the globe; and the demands of our manufactures have increased with much greater rapidity than those of any country in the world."

In twenty years our average crop has increased from 845,000 bales to 2,351,000 or nearly 300 fold. In the same time the production of other countries has only risen from 353,000 to 440,000 bales. In the first period of five years from 1825, the crop of the United States constituted 68 per cent of the whole; in the second, 74; in the third, 77; in the fourth, 80; and in the fifth 84 per cent of the whole crop in the world. And even more than this, our bolls have increased in weight over those of other countries.

In the same period of 25 years, the consumption of our own manufactures has increased 325 per cent, while that of Great Britain has increased only 125 per cent.—At present our consumption is 37 per cent of the English.

France, during all this period has remained nearly stationary. In the last five years she has gone backward. In Spain, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Russia, the increase has been nearly as rapid as in the United States.

The high price of the raw material for the last two or three years has caused a diminution in the demand for manufactures in our country, but this state of things cannot long remain. Production will soon reach the demand and restore the equilibrium.

Another Victim of Intemperance.

Thomas Grinnam, of Talbot County, Md., was convicted last week for the willful and deliberate murder of an associate. He had been under the influence of liquor for several days. In pronouncing the sentence, Judge Hopper said, "Had you always been a sober man, in all probability you would have escaped the untimely death which awaits you, for it is a notable fact that nineteen-twentieths of the murders and other homicides in our State are traceable to the use of intoxicating drinks." Truly it is time that the strong arm of the law should take hold of this subject in earnest. We are in favor of the largest liberty, but no man has a right to use his liberty to the injury of others, and when almost all the judges of the land give it as their experience that strong drink engenders nearly all the crime existing among us, is it not time that something effectual was done? We look with anxiety and hope to the effect of the late total prohibition law in Vermont. Such laws may be the only and last resort.

Suicide.—A colored man, we learn casually, was found dead, near Leesville, on Tuesday last. A knife was found in one hand, and one of his arms was cut above the elbow. He had doubtless bed himself to death. Supposed to be a fugitive slave.

City Charter.

A final vote was taken in Council on Saturday evening, in favor of the new charter which has been for some time under consideration. A resolution was passed at the same time authorizing its publication in the town papers and instructing the Mayor to issue his proclamation for an election to be held on the 28th inst., at which a vote of the citizens shall be taken for or against its adoption.

The Inauguration.

Thursday Judge Wood was inaugurated as Governor of the State. In the evening a ball was held at the American Hotel. On Tuesday evening next, the 17th, there will be an INAUROGATION SOIREE, at the Orleans, which we take will be a grand affair. Among the fifty managers, we notice the names of Demas Adams, Jr., W. A. Adams, Col. Geo. W. Morgan, W. P. Bascom, Hon. W. Medill, and Eli Kinney. We should like right well if we could be transported there by telegraph—just to take a few passing notes.

Taxation.

The Constitutional Convention, on Thursday last, had under consideration the proviso in the article relating to taxation, which exempts certain property, Churches, School Houses, &c. After considerable discussion the proviso was stricken out. Upon the whole this appears to be right. The fair, honest and just way is for all property to pay taxes according to its value, for all is equally interested in laws for its protection.

The Largest sailing vessel in the world is now being built for Mr. Griswold, in the Ship-yard of Mr. Webb, New York. Her burthen is 2,500 tons, and she is intended for the California and China trade. Notwithstanding her immense burthen she is not as long as many of our river steamers.

We are much indebted to Hon. J. L. Taylor for a beautifully printed volume containing the Obituary addresses delivered on the occasion of the death of President Taylor, in the Senate and House of Representatives.

A man was found in the streets of Chillicothe, on Thursday night who had been knocked down, and had his skull fractured. Four negroes the Chillicothe papers state were near the scene, and were charged with the crime. S. R. ROSS.

France.

The President of France, if he has failed in all other things, has imitated the Presidents of the model Republic in the annual message he has just delivered to the Assembly. It is rather an able document, setting forth the state of the country in a manner that cannot fail to please a people who have heretofore received but a few words annually from the head of the nation, and these only fully comprehended by those posted up in governmental affairs. The message goes into a lengthy and detailed account of the foreign relations and domestic affairs of France, recommends that the constitution be amended, (alluding to the section of that instrument which provides that the President shall hold his office one term only,) defends the policy of the government, and explains his alleged electioneering in a neat and very cunning manner. The open policy expressed in the message has astonished all Europe and set the crown heads to wondering.

A Wind Fall.

Mr. A. Deffenbaugh, one of the publishers of the Nonpareil, Cincinnati, has just received from the Government a patent which secures to him 880 acres of land in Texas, being a part of the bounty land awarded to him for his services as Lieutenant, during the war of Independence, in 1836-7. The land has been surveyed and located within ten miles of San Antonio. Madame Fortune has condescended to smile for once on a printer, and we hope Mr. D. may now realize that comfort of body and mind which is often dreamed of by editors and publishers of daily papers.

Our Public School.

This week, it will be remembered, the public examination of all the schools will take place. We are proud to say, these schools are a credit to our town. Long may they so continue. It is to be hoped, that parents, and all who feel an interest in sustaining these institutions, will attend.

Railroad!

By a private dispatch from Mr. Moore, our representative, we learn that the Bill amending the charter of the Railroad, has passed both Houses and has become a law. This will take the fetters off from the limbs of this enterprise, and leave it free to act with energy for the public good.

Who wants Corn?

We call the attention of corn consumers, particularly in the furnace region, to the advertisement, of Mr. Kennedy, who is an experienced dealer in the article, has bought largely, and is well prepared to ship and deliver any quantity demanded.

The suit now pending in the U. S. Supreme Court between the State of Pennsylvania and the Wheeling Bridge Company, in reference to the obstruction of the Ohio, the Governor of Virginia considers an encroachment upon the sovereign authority of Virginia, and in violation of every principle of right. If it is so the Supreme Court will so determine, with whom the whole matter now rests, as it is the only tribunal having jurisdiction.

The printers in the offices of the Pittsburgh Post and Gazette come to blows in consequence of rivalry in issuing the President's Message. The editors of those papers are having a war of words from the same cause. Pshaw!

SOUTH CAROLINA FORTIFYING.—In the South Carolina House of Representatives, on the 5th inst., the resolution of Mr. Izard Middleton, authorizing the committee on military affairs to inquire into the expediency of fortifying Beaufort, Georgetown and St. John's Island, was adopted.

FUGITIVE ENOUGH.—A woman was arrested at Boston, on Friday, upon suspicion that she was a man in disguise. Some merchants testified that she was a worthy woman and shopkeeper, who had come to Boston to buy goods, though her strange gait, coarse voice, heavy beard, &c., excited a doubt as to her properly wearing the petticoats.

Another Arrival from California.

The steamer Empire City arrived at New York on Sunday. She brings about three millions of gold and three hundred and twenty-five passengers.

She brings dates from Jamaica to Nov. 31. The cholera was very fatal there, and it has spread fearfully all over the country. At Kingston and Port Royal over 5,000 deaths had occurred since the breaking out of the disease.

The Empire City has no later news from California.

The New Orleans and Ohio Telegraph line is now in prime working order, and friend Parker, the operator at this place, is fully prepared to do business with "neatness and dispatch." We observed that he was talking with Pittsburgh, nearly 300 miles from here, with as much ease as we would talk to our camp. The line is undergoing thorough repairs, under the supervision of Mr. Starr, the gentlemanly superintendent, by whose good management we predict its stock will yield a handsome per cent.

Hon. John Y. Mason, (dem.) has been re-elected by the Legislature of Virginia to the Senate of the United States, by a vote of 113 to 42.

MIND YOUR POINTS.—A writer in the last Christian Advocate and Journal, says that "Migerva, like the New York Conference Seminary, has sprung into existence."

Mr. Y. Beach, Esq., formerly of the N. Y. "Sun," is now lying under a severe attack of paralysis, from which he is not expected to recover.

George Williams and Thomas Brown are to be hung at Peoria, Ill., on the 29th inst. for murder. S. R. ROSS.

Gov. Wood's Inaugural.

The Inaugural message of Governor Wood, is a document of which the democratic party may well feel proud. It is mainly, straight forward, learned, dignified, candid and truthful. His warmest political opponents will be able to find few passages in it which they can object. It came too late for publication in this week's paper, and its length may perhaps prevent us from publishing it entire.

In consideration of the fact that the constitutional convention is now in session, and that a new constitution will, before another session be voted upon, and probably adopted, he recommends a short session of the present legislature.

On the subject of banks, he takes the just and incontrovertible position, that property being the basis of taxation, all property should bear an equal share of the burden.—We understand him to doubt whether any legislature has the right to exempt any particular species of property from its due share of this burden, and consequently that banks should be taxed as other property is. This is a doctrine that must eventually prevail, for it is founded on the immutable principles of justice.

He upholds the constitutionality of the Fugitive law and advocates strict obedience to its provisions, although he does not consider it expedient. On this subject he is very full and clear.

Deprecating anything like violence or resistance to this law, he closes with these words: "The flag of the union must be carried down to future generations, unswayed and untorn; and, if not, in God's mercy, let Ohio defend it, till the last act has sealed its miserable doom."

Mammoth Printing Press.

There is nothing which tends better to convey the idea of the present progress of art, as well as the vast influence of the newspaper press of this country, than the construction and employment of such a press as that described in the following notice, from the New York Sun.

Our Mammoth Press.

Yesterday afternoon the last of the heaviest portion of the gigantic steam printing press, recently finished by the Messrs. Hoe & Co. of this city, was lowered into the great press room of the New York Sun. The two largest portions, which are in single castings of iron, are parts of the side framings. Each casting is eight by ten feet.

No one but a mechanic, who has closely examined, can have any proper idea of the time, expense and labor necessary to the construction of such a huge, yet intricate specimen of mechanism as is this printing press. The engine of one of our great ocean steamers, in its stately and powerful movements, conveys, at the first glance, an idea that a great amount of labor and expense was requisite for its production. But this mammoth printing machine, although in its rapid evolutions it seems instinct with life, and presents to the beholder a far more interesting and wonderful appearance than any steam engine does, and, without conveying a true idea of the vast labor and ingenuity which has been expended in its construction.

In the formation of this remarkable printing machine, there are, as we learn from the manufacturers, 6000 bolts and screws, 1800 wheels, 202 wooden rollers, 400 pulleys, 400 tape guides.

Exclusive of a large amount of cogged wheel connections, there are also required to give motion to the various parts, 500 yards of belting. But the above form only a tithe of the whole. The arrangement of the cylinders, the placing of the types, the application of the ink, the supply and discharge of the sheets—in short, the invention, combination and adjustment of all the numberless parts, in such an exact and delicate manner as that a sheet of white paper shall be drawn in, pressed just enough to stamp upon it the impression of the New York Sun, and be discharged—all the work of an instant. We repeat, the labor and ingenuity required to produce such a machine, a variation in which to the extent even of the thickness of a sheet of paper would be ruinous, is inconceivable—insurmountable, almost, to any other than American skill, genius and energy.

Such is the gigantic steam printing press, recently invented and constructed by Messrs. Hoe & Co., in order to print off the immense edition of the New York Sun. It is by far the largest, fastest, and most costly press in the world, and probably the most wonderful piece of mechanism. But with all the capabilities of this machine, printing as it will at the rate of 20,000 copies per hour, we shall probably soon have need of even faster presses.

Hogs.—The number of hogs that arrived in Cincinnati during the week ending Thursday, excluding those arrived by wagons, was as follows:

Arrived from Ohio and Indiana 11,292
Arrived by railroad, river, canals 6,883
From Kentucky 12,806
Slaughtered in Covington not reported.
Slaughtered at Plainville 4,200

Total this week 35,193
Previously reported 64,404
Grand total 99,596

Mr. Corvin, Secretary of the Treasury, has given notice to parties intending to forward articles to the London Exhibition, that the Navy Yards at Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk will receive and store them free of expense; and in due time revenue cutters will convey them abroad.

Maryland Convention.

The Reform Convention, now in Session at Annapolis, Md., has adopted resolutions for the election of a Governor biennially, which functionary is to be invested with the veto power, requiring two-thirds of the Legislature to override. The resolutions also restrict the pardoning power of the Executive and cut down the number of delegates to the House to forty members.

Humility is the best evidence of real religion, as arrogance, self-conceit and pretension are the infallible criteria of a pharisaical devotion.

The question relative to the power of the United States Marshal to arrest Governor Quitman, and take him to New Orleans, is on argument in Mississippi, before Judge Ghoshon.

There are one hundred and forty-four Masonic Lodges in Georgia, numbering 5,400 members. April 3, 1850. S. R. ROSS.

Hunt's Merchants' Magazine.—The number for December of this sterling work, among the many valuable things which it contains, has well written articles on "The Cotton Trade; History of British Panics; Internal Improvements in the State of New York; Advantages and Disadvantages of Private Corporations; The power and influence of Commerce; Lawson's History of Banking. We are pleased to notice that the talented editor of this very useful magazine, has received from the Board of Trade in Baltimore a very complimentary expression of the high estimation in which his work is held by them.

Blackwood's Magazine and Foreign Reviews.

Blackwood for November, contains a continuation of "My Novel," an excellent article on "The Rise, Power and Politics of Prussia," "Hours in Spain," Anna Hammer, "Alton Locke, Tailor and Poet," &c.

Being near the close of the year we would call renewed attention to the republications of Leonard Scott & Co., of which the advertisement will be found in another column.—They are works which every man who seeks to put himself in the advancing columns of human progress should read. The articles are all emanations from the most cultivated minds in Great Britain, and on subjects of the highest order. Whether the reader concurs with or dissents from the opinions of the writers he cannot fail to be edified and instructed. Now is a favorable time to subscribe for these works, which are put so low as to bring them within reach of almost every reading man, particularly when a club can be formed, which might be done with very little exertion in almost every village—certainly in every town like Portsmouth.

The Phenological Journal, and the Water Cure Journal for December are on our table.

It is the intention of the enterprising publishers of these useful works, Messrs. Fowler & Wells, to enlarge them both at the commencement of the next volume, January 1. They will hereafter be printed in quarto form, at the same low price of \$1.00 a year. Perhaps no work in the country is doing more substantial good than the Water Cure Journal. It is diffusing throughout the land a kind of knowledge, affecting first the physical and through it the mental and moral well-being of man, which is of incalculable service.—No family should be without this work. It should be as well as and as thoroughly considered as the domestic duties of every day life.—Many a young life, lost through ignorance of nature's laws, might have saved by the knowledge imparted by the pages of this work, and parents, themselves, made the safest physicians for the young beings committed to their charge.

The Washington Globe.

This fine paper, giving a more full and reliable account of the proceedings of Congress than any other paper in the Union, appears in new and splendid type throughout. It is printed on an excellent quality of paper and is just such a paper as one would like to preserve for future reference.

SUSPENSION OF NAVIGATION BY ICE ABOVE ST. LOUIS.—BOATS LAIN UP.—We learn by a telegraphic dispatch from St. Louis yesterday says the Louisville Con. of the eleventh, that the upper rivers' navigation was suspended at that point. Navigation closed to all the upper rivers last year, on or about the 12th of September.—On the 17th of the month, the first suspension took place between St. Louis and Cairo. Ice had already made its appearance in the river.—The upper Mississippi and Illinois rivers were full of ice, and falling at the latest dates, with but light prospects of boats getting up. A telegraphic dispatch dated Hannibal, December, 5th states that the river at that point was filled with heavy floating ice, and falling rapidly.

No less than twenty steamers are lying at the levee at St. Louis, having discontinued business for the winter, or at least as long as the present cold weather lasts.

The Maharajah of Jannoo has sent a collection of shawls, papier mache and carpets from Cashmere to Lahore, on route for London. Their value is £10,000, and they are gift to the trustees of the great fair. Among the Eastern contributions, is a suit of armor inlaid with gold, &c.

A SHORT DAY.—The shortest day of the winter solstice, will be the 21st of December, at which time the sun obtains its greatest southern declination, when it will rise at twenty-six minutes after seven and set at thirty minutes after four.

THE AMOUNT OF GOLD DUST CLEARED FROM SAN FRANCISCO FROM NOVEMBER, 1849, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1850, is stated by the Alta Californian, at \$17,622,877 And in October 4,591,461

And received \$22,214,338 2,134,000 in the same period of fourteen months, leaving \$20,080,338 difference.

THE WOMEN OF INDIANA.—Some fifteen of the prominent ladies of Indiana, grateful to the members of the Convention for securing to the married women of that State independent rights of property, "have determined to present to the Hon. Robert Dale Owen as the original mover, a testimonial in the form of a piece of plate, with suitable inscriptions, as a slight token of lasting gratitude."

"Stop your noise in there," roared Mr. Peppercase, as he heard the sounds of juvenile warfairs, in the kitchen. "If I come out there to you, I'll give you something that you'll remember for a fortnight! I'll knock your head off! I never saw such children in my life; always yelling and fighting!" "I declare, that's queer," said Mrs. Partington, who was there to tea, "that is queer when they have such a very mild man for a father; I should think they would be as gentle as doves. Some fathers are like the frightful porcupine, and of course their children will be fractious. As the old hog squeals, the young ones learn you know." She stirred her tea gently and smiled as she spoke; and Mr. Peppercase, after a vain effort to detect animosity in her looks, changed the subject to the best mode of raising cucumbers, which cooled him down in a short time.—Boston Path-finder.

FROM OREGON.—Astoria dates to 15th of October were received by the Georgia. All the new Territorial interests were highly prosperous. Most of the overland immigrants had arrived, though there were yet a few in the Cascade Mountains.

The remains of B. R. Hardin, of Ky., late Secretary of Legation to Chili, have been found on a mountain, in the rear of the city of Panama. No doubt Mr. H. was murdered.

Hereafter the Legislature of New Hampshire is to meet once in two years, and the

Arrival of the Steamer Asia.

The Steamer Asia arrived at New York on the 7th inst., having left Liverpool on the 23d ult. The news is not of much interest. The markets are unchanged and no important political events have transpired, since the news by the Arctic.

An immense "anti-Papal aggression" meeting was held at Liverpool on the 20th, at which more than five thousand persons were present. There was a great deal of enthusiasm, but no disturbance. The question continues to agitate the whole kingdom.

We find little in the English papers from the continent. On Tuesday, the 19th, at a village called Bourg St. Andol, in France, a person named Morrice, was arrested on a charge of being implicated in the disturbance at Lyons. Whilst the troops were escorting the prisoner, they were fired upon from behind a barricade, erected for the purpose of preventing their progress. The lieutenant was struck by a bullet, which broke his jaw. The troops immediately fired upon their assailants, and scattered them in all directions; one of the insurgents was killed, and several others wounded. Tranquillity was speedily restored.

Affairs in Germany are more peaceable, but it is said that the Prussians will not suffer the King to make an agreement with Austria, which they consider would be a humiliation of their national honor.

Austria proposes to delay the measures against Holstein and Hesse, until the extension shall have been settled, by the free conferences. She also offers to dissolve the Diet and to consent to a league of German States. No change in Hesse-Cassel.

General Willson had made another movement of his outposts, which only ended in a skirmish, in which a few were killed and wounded on both sides.

The Government of the Duchies were firm in their determination to oppose any invasion of the Board; and not a single Prussian, says the times correspondent, had left the Holstein army. Their number is calculated at 4,000 to 5,000.

A spirit of opposition is abroad in Croatia. The war against the German counties is unpopular in the Austrian Empire. Radetski appears the policy of Prince Schwartzberg at Vienna.

Prince Dominique Orsini has been appointed Minister of war to the Pope, in the room of Baron de Kallhermann, who has resigned. Monsignor Hildebrand Rossi has been made Director General of Police.

Accounts from Aleppo record the particulars of one of the most bloody and treacherous revolutions which have yet been inscribed in the annals of history, that of an unnamed Christian population being massacred in cold blood by a set of ruffians, for no other motive whatever, excepting that the former are rich, powerful, and enjoy certain considerations the latter cannot even aspire to. The murders committed are everywhere of the most atrocious character, and partook more of the wild beast than of mankind. An Armenian family was massacred, including the infant at the breast, and even Turks themselves were wounded, because they remonstrated against such excesses.

From Hong Kong, it is reported that the insurgents are beating the imperial troops, and are within one hundred miles of Canton. Sir James Brooke's mission to Siam has proved a failure.

The papers report, at length, an address on law reform, made by D. D. Field, of this city, in London, at the request of the Society for the Amendment of the Law. It is warmly commended in the Times.

Accounts from Berlin are to the 18th ult.—On that day the terms of the King's speech for the opening of the Chambers were settled at a Cabinet Council over which the King presided. The movements of troops in Austria, Bavaria and Wittenburg, have been temporarily suspended.

Misery and Misery.

If some competent person would make a collection of the biographies of illustrious misers, it would form a volume of rare interests and instructiveness. Two remarkable subjects for such a work have recently become notorious. We refer to McDonough, of Louisiana, and Strawn, of Illinois. Another case, scarcely less remarkable than either of these, has recently attracted the attention of the people of Ohio. An old beggar woman, by the name of Elizabeth Morelock, lately died in the city of Cincinnati, as every body supposed, in a state of extreme destitution. On the night of her death, a lighted candle was placed upon a stand beside her bed, her idiot daughter, a frightful hunchback, being the only attendant—though a part of the time the physician was present. The old woman opened her eyes, and perceiving the burning candle, ordered it to be blown out, saying that she could not afford it. When she was taken sick she ordered the chest, which was, after death, found to contain nearly four thousand dollars in gold, to be placed near her bed, and she kept it within reach of her arms during the whole of her sickness.—When the death struggle came on, and she was told she must die, she flung herself upon the chest, and clawed at it, in a phrenzy of avarice, until she tore the very nails from her fingers; and while thus embracing her treasure, her spirit took its flight. An old stove, in the room, was found, after her death, to contain a considerable amount of silver and copper coin, carefully stowed away. The money and effects have been placed in the hands of an executor, appointed by the court. In 1840, when small change was scarce, this woman made a handsome speculation, by selling the small coins accumulated by the beggary of herself and her idiot daughter. The latter was generally flogged upon her return at night, when she did not make a good day's work, and always whipped before she was sent out in the morning. The cries of the poor creature, while under the lash of her avaricious mother, have frequently excited the indignation of the neighborhood. The poor idiot herself, was afterwards attacked by the cholera, and is now, probably, numbered with the dead.

JENNY LIND'S WEALTH.—A correspondent of the Home Journal says that Jenny pays £4,500 annually under the English Income Tax. She has invested in the English three per cents, about \$750,000. Her annual income, therefore, from the source alone, is about \$22,000. He states that she has given away in charity, about £24,000; \$400,000, as nearly as can be estimated. £27,000 of this was given in England; £5,000 in Edinburgh. In Edinburgh she gave five concerts at a guinea a ticket. On the first four she cleared £20,000; and on the fifth an additional £5,000, which was devoted to charitable purposes. He estimates the entire amount of her European wealth at \$1,000,000.

THE MARRIAGE QUESTION.—The associate informed Synod of South Carolina, at its last meeting, rejected an overture in favor of marriage with a deceased wife's sister. The Presbytery of South Carolina, (O. S.) answered in the negative the question: "Is it lawful that marriage be solemnized between parties standing in the relation of nephew and aunt by affinity?"

LAND WARRANTS.—A Dispatch from Washington asserts that two thirds of the members of Congress seem to have determined upon amending the Bounty Land Law of last session, to allow the transfer of warrants between

ARRIVAL OF THE GEORGIA.

Latest from California. Terrible Steamboat Explosion—More Gold.—The Market—Business—The Weather.

New York, Dec. 7.—A. M.

The steamer Georgia arrived here this morning with two weeks' later advices from California, and San Francisco dates to the 1st Nov.

The steamer Panama arrived at Panama with 280 passengers and \$2,500,000 worth of the gold dust. The Georgia brings over a million of gold.

The steamer Sagamore burst her Boilers near San Francisco. The explosion was terrible, killing all the officers and crew and a large number of passengers, whose names had not been ascertained.

Business in San Francisco, at other towns, and at the mines continue prosperous. The rainy season had not set in. Gold was coming in abundantly, and business generally prosperous. Money was bringing 5 to 7 per cent, a month.

Flour selling at \$18.90 per bbl. Produce generally in good demand—prices varying but little from previous accounts.

Political affairs quiet.

Great Celebration at San Francisco.

A grand celebration in honor of the admission of California as one of the United States, took place at San Francisco on the 29th of October, in which all the State officers, Government officers, benevolent societies, and all the citizens foreign and American generally, took a part. They had a grand procession, an oration by the Hon. Nathaniel Bennett, and a ball. We extract the following eloquent and suggestive passage from Mr. Bennett's address.

Fellow-citizens: We are, at length, fairly launched upon our course. With a State constitution approved by the convention unanimously, and adopted by the people with scarcely a dissenting voice—a constitution guaranteeing freedom to all, favoring none, and bringing all the officers of the State under immediate responsibility to the people, there is no reason to doubt our eminent success. Judging from the past, what have we not a right to expect in the future.

The world has never witnessed anything equal or similar to our career hitherto. Scarcely two years ago California was almost an unoccupied wild. With the exception of a presidio, a mission, a pueblo, or a lonely ranch, scattered here and there at tire some distances, there was nothing to show that the uniform stillness had ever been broken by the footsteps of civilized man. The agricultural richness of her valleys remained unimproved, and the wealth of a world lay entombed in the bosom of her solitary mountains, and on the banks of her unexplored streams.

Behold the contrast! The hand of agriculture is now busy in every fertile valley, and its toils are remunerated with rewards which in no other portion of the world can be credited. Enterprise has pierced every hill for hidden treasure and has heaped up enormous gains. Cities and villages dot the surface of the whole State. Steamers dart along our rivers, and innumerable vessels spread their white wings over our bays.—Not Constantinople, upon which the wealth of imperial Rome was lavished, not St. Petersburg, to found which, the arbitrary power of the Czar sacrificed thousands of his subjects, would rival, in rapidity of growth, the fair city which lies before me. Our State is a marvel to ourselves, and a miracle to the rest of the world.

Nor is the influence of California confined within her own borders. Mexico, and the islands nestled in the embrace of the Pacific, have felt the quickening breath of her enterprise. With her golden wand, she has touched the prostrate corpse of South American industry, and it has sprung up in the richness of life. She has caused the hum of busy life to be heard in the wilderness, "where rolls the Oregon," and but recently heard no sounds save its own desolation. Even the wall of Chinese exclusiveness has been broken down, and the children of the sun have come forth to view the splendor of her achievements.

[From the Pacific News.]

POLITICS. The political character of the result of the late election in the state, it is not impossible to determine with certainty. In many of the large and sparsely populated counties, the question of political preference was not brought into the canvass. Enough is known, however, to determine the fact that the two great parties are nearly equally balanced, with a strong probability that the democratic party will have a small majority on joint ballot. As the next legislature will be required to elect a U. S. Senator in the place of Mr. Fremont, who drew away the short term, the question of party ascendancy is one of no inconsiderable importance, especially to the numerous aspirants who are already making interest with a view to official elevation.

STATE DEAN.

The question of calling an extra session of the Legislature, for the purpose of effecting a loan to liquidate the indebtedness of the state, in case Congress does not grant the appropriation asked for by Mr. Fremont, is again being bravely ag